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ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN LAW SCHOOLS.
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ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN LAW SCHOOLS

ARTICLES *of* ASSOCIATION

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ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN LAW SCHOOLS

ARTICLES *of* ASSOCIATION

*Adopted August 28, 1900. As Amended and Construed in
Subsequent Annual Meetings*

THE undersigned Law Schools in the United States, represented by delegates duly appointed by their respective faculties, do hereby form an Association to be called the Association of American Law Schools, and establish the following as its Articles of Association:

First. The object of the Association is the improvement of legal education in America, especially in the Law Schools.¹

Second. The Association shall meet annually at the time and place at which the American Bar Association meets.² The Executive Committee may call special meetings at such time and place as the Committee may select; thirty days' notice of such meeting shall be given by the Secretary to all members of the Association, and the purpose of the meeting shall be stated in the notice.

Third. The Law Schools having delegates at this meeting and signing these Articles before July 1, 1901, shall be members of the Association, provided such schools shall comply with Article Sixth.

Fourth. Each member of the Association may send to the meetings delegates not exceeding four from each Law School.³

¹ *Resolved*, That the members of the Association be requested to print in their annual announcements the fact of their membership in the Association. [Adopted. Proceedings, 1902, pp. 7, 10.]

² *Resolved*, That each year there shall be one meeting of the Association of American Law Schools, which shall be a private business meeting of the Association only, at which no papers shall be presented. [Adopted. Proceedings, 1905, p. 22.]

The Executive Committee has recommended for adoption at the 1914 meeting an amendment adding the words: "unless the Executive Committee shall otherwise direct."

³ *Resolved*, That the Association recommends that the expenses of delegates to the annual meeting of the Association be paid by the schools appointing them. [Adopted. Proceedings, 1901, pp. 7, 10.]

See also minute of the Executive Committee, Proceedings, 1908, p. 6.

The Association declined to make the sending of delegates compulsory. Proceedings, 1901, p. 10; 1902, p. 5.

Fifth. At all meetings of the Association the voting shall be by delegates, unless some delegate requests that any vote shall be taken by schools, in which case it shall be taken by schools, each school having one vote.

Sixth. Law Schools may be elected to membership at any meeting by vote of the Association, but no Law School shall be so elected unless it complies with the following requirements:

1. It shall require of all candidates for its degree at the time of their admission to the school the completion of a four years' high school course, or such a course of preparation as would be accepted for admission to the State university or to the principal colleges and universities in the State where the Law School is located: *Provided*, that this requirement shall not take effect until September, 1907. [As amended in 1905.]⁴

⁴ See Proceedings, 1905, pp. 9, 11. This section originally read as follows:

1. It shall require of candidates for its degree the completion of a high school course of study, or its equivalent. The equivalent may be determined by the Law School Faculty upon certificates issued under public authority, or by the authorities of an institution of advanced learning. In the absence of these the applicant shall be required to pass an examination in studies equivalent to those required of high school graduates. *Provided*, That this requirement shall not take effect until September, 1901.

The following construction was placed upon this section before its amendment:

Resolved, That the first requirement of the Sixth Article of the Articles of Association means that students when admitted to the school shall, as a general rule—subject only to occasional exceptions in special cases—possess the qualifications therein stated. [See Proceedings, 1903, p. 9.]

A later resolution on the subject is as follows:

Resolved, That the Association deems it highly advisable that the requirements for admission to the Law Schools which are members of this Association shall be advanced as rapidly as the conditions under which the work of the several schools is carried on will permit, and strongly commends the action of those schools which have already advanced their requirements so as to require one or more years of work at college as a prerequisite to admission to the Law School, and express the earnest hope that this advancement may continue until all of the members of the Association shall ultimately require at least two years of college work as preliminary to the study of law. [See Proceedings, 1908, pp. 4, 5.]

This resolution was adopted as part of the report of the Executive Committee, which stated that "the Committee does not now recommend that any advancement in the requirements for admission shall be made compulsory upon the Association, or a condition of membership in it."

See also Proceedings, 1910, p. 41.

For recommendations as to a program of university courses for students preparing for the study of law, see Proceedings, 1909, pp. 38, 39.

2. It shall require of its candidates for any legal degree study of law during a period of at least three years of thirty weeks each, with an average of at least ten hours' required class-room work each week; provided, however, that candidates attending night classes only shall be required to study law during a period of not less than four years of thirty weeks each, with an average of at least eight hours of required class-room work each week. [As amended in 1909.]⁵

3. The conferring of its degree shall be conditioned upon the attainment of a grade of scholarship ascertained by examination.⁶

⁵ See Proceedings, 1909, pp. 34, 36. This section originally read as follows:

2. The course of study leading to its degree shall cover at least two years of thirty weeks per year, with an average of at least ten hours' required class-room work each week for each student: *Provided*, That after the year 1905 members of this Association shall require a three years' course.

The following construction was placed upon this section before its amendment:

Resolved, That any school which gives a degree to a student who has studied law for less than three years is not complying with Article VI of the Articles of the Association. [Adopted, Proceedings, 1907, pp. 39, 47.]

Resolved, That present members of the Association who have in good faith accepted a different interpretation of the requirements of Article VI shall have two years to comply with the interpretation now adopted. [Adopted, Proceedings, 1907, p. 48.]

Resolved, (1) That the question of giving credit for work done in other Law Schools must be left to the discretion of each member of the Association:

(2) That under no circumstances should students be admitted to advanced standing on account of work done in law offices, or elsewhere than in a Law School, except upon the applicant's passing rigid examinations on the subjects for which time credit is to be given:

(3) That the time credit so given for office work should not exceed one year:

(4) That the practice of giving advanced standing on account of office work, even when so restricted, is dangerous to the maintenance of high standards and is to be reprehended, but it is not deemed wise at the present time to adopt any regulation prohibiting the allowance of time credit of a year or less for such study in law offices and the consequent admission to advanced standing on that account. [See Proceedings, 1908, pp. 4, 5, 6.]

"WHEREAS, The maintenance of regular courses of instruction in law at night, parallel to courses in the day, tends inevitably to lower educational standards,

"*Be it Resolved*, That the policy of the Association shall be not to admit to membership hereafter any law school pursuing this course." [See Proceedings, 1912, p. 45.]

⁶ *Resolved*, That no student should be unconditionally advanced from one class to a higher one without passing a satisfactory examination upon the studies previously pursued by the former class. [Adopted, Proceedings, 1902, p. 7.]

4. It shall own a law library of not less than 5,000 volumes. [As amended in 1912.]⁷

Seventh. Any school which shall fail to maintain the requirements provided for in Article Sixth, or such standard as may hereafter be adopted by resolution of the Association, shall be excluded from the Association by a vote at the general meeting, but may be reinstated at a subsequent meeting on proof that it is then *bona fide* fulfilling such requirements.

Eighth. The officers of this Association shall be a President and a Secretary-Treasurer, who shall be chosen from among the delegates at each annual meeting, and each of whom shall hold office until his successor is elected.

Ninth. At each annual meeting there shall be chosen from among the delegates three persons to be members of the Executive Committee, who with the President and Secretary shall form such Committee. The Secretary of the Association shall be Secretary of the Committee.

Tenth. The Executive Committee shall have charge of the affairs of the Association and is especially entrusted with seeing that the requirements of Articles Sixth and Seventh are complied with. All complaints shall be addressed to the Executive Committee, and shall be filed at least ninety days before the annual meeting of the Association. The Committee shall investigate all complaints and report its findings,⁸ with such recommendations as it shall think proper, to the Association for its action, and shall make a report at the annual meeting.⁹ This provision shall not, however, prevent any matter being taken up and passed upon by the Association, except that no Law School shall be excluded from the Association under the Seventh Article unless the Executive Committee has given it thirty days' notice that it has in the opinion of that Committee failed to comply with the provisions of the Sixth or Seventh Article.

Eleventh. Applications for membership shall be addressed to the Secretary, accompanied by evidence that the school applying fulfils

⁷ See Proceedings, 1912, pp. 37-40.

⁸ For discussion of the powers and duties of the Executive Committee under this section, see Proceedings, 1905, pp. 114-129.

⁹ "On motion, it was voted that the Executive Committee be requested to print its report and mail it to the members of the Association at least twenty days before the annual meeting of the Association."

Proceedings, 1901, p. 10.

the requirements of Articles Sixth and Seventh. The Executive Committee shall examine the application, and report to the Association whether the applicant has fulfilled the requirements. Applications for membership shall be made at least ninety days before the meeting of the Association.

Twelfth. The Executive Committee may conduct its business by correspondence.

Thirteenth. The officers and other members of the Executive Committee may be re-elected, but no school shall be represented on the Executive Committee for more than three years in succession, except that the Secretary-Treasurer may be re-elected indefinitely.

Fourteenth. The annual assessment on each school shall be ten dollars, payable in advance, and any school which shall have failed to pay its assessment during the year shall be dropped from the Association, but may be reinstated by vote of the Association upon payment of arrears.

Fifteenth. These articles may be changed at any annual meeting; the vote on such change shall be by schools, and no change shall be adopted unless it is voted for by two-thirds of the schools represented, nor unless it is voted for by at least one-third of all the members of the Association; provided, that no motion for an amendment shall be considered unless a copy of such proposed amendment be filed with the Secretary at least ninety days before the meeting and a copy thereof sent forthwith by the Secretary to each member.

JULY, 1914

MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN LAW SCHOOLS

1914

Cincinnati Law School, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Columbia University School of Law, New York City.
Cornell University College of Law, Ithaca, N.Y.
Creighton University College of Law, Omaha, Neb.
Dickinson School of Law, Carlisle, Pa.
Drake University College of Law, Des Moines, Iowa.
George Washington University Department of Law, Washington, D.C.
Harvard University Law School, Cambridge, Mass.
Indiana University School of Law, Bloomington, Ind.
Leland Stanford Junior University School of Law, Stanford University, Cal.
Marquette University College of Law, Milwaukee, Wis.
Northwestern University School of Law, Chicago, Ill.
Ohio State University College of Law, Columbus, Ohio.
Pittsburgh Law School, University of Pittsburgh, Pa.
St. Louis Law School of Washington University, St. Louis, Mo.
State University of Iowa College of Law, Iowa City, Iowa.
State University of Kentucky School of Law, Lexington, Ky.
Syracuse University College of Law, Syracuse, N.Y.
Trinity College Department of Law, Durham, N.C.
Tulane University of Louisiana Department of Law, New Orleans, La.
University of California, Hastings College of the Law, San Francisco, Cal.
University of California, School of Jurisprudence, Berkeley, Cal.
University of Chicago Law School, Chicago, Ill.
University of Colorado School of Law, Boulder, Colo.
University of Denver School of Law, Denver, Colo.
University of Illinois College of Law, Urbana, Ill.
University of Kansas School of Law, Lawrence, Kan.
University of Michigan Department of Law, Ann Arbor, Mich.
University of Minnesota College of Law, Minneapolis, Minn.
University of Missouri College of Law, Columbia, Mo.
University of Nebraska College of Law, Lincoln, Neb.
University of North Dakota College of Law, Grand Forks, N.D.
University of Oklahoma School of Law, Norman, Okla.
University of Pennsylvania Law School, Philadelphia, Pa.
University of South Dakota College of Law, Vermillion, S.D.
University of Southern California College of Law, Los Angeles, Cal.
University of Tennessee Law Department, Knoxville, Tenn.
University of Texas Department of Law, Austin, Tex.
University of Wisconsin Law School, Madison, Wis.
Vanderbilt University Law Department, Nashville, Tenn.
Washburn College School of Law, Topeka, Kan.
Western Reserve University, Franklin T. Backus Law School, Cleveland, Ohio.
Yale University Law School, New Haven, Conn.

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

1900-1901

JAMES BRADLEY THAYER, *President*
E. W. HUFFCUT, *Secretary-Treasurer*

1901-2

EMLIN McLAIN, *President*
E. W. HUFFCUT, *Secretary-Treasurer*

1902-3

SIMEON E. BALDWIN, *President*
E. W. HUFFCUT, *Secretary-Treasurer*

1903-4

E. W. HUFFCUT, *President*
WILLIAM P. ROGERS, *Secretary-Treasurer*

1904-5

NATHAN ABBOTT, *President*
WILLIAM P. ROGERS, *Secretary-Treasurer*

1905-6

HENRY WAGE ROGERS, *President*
WILLIAM P. ROGERS, *Secretary-Treasurer*

1906-7

WILLIAM P. ROGERS, *President*
WILLIAM R. VANCE, *Secretary-Treasurer*

1907-8

GEORGE W. KIRCHWEY, *President*
WILLIAM R. VANCE, *Secretary-Treasurer*

1908-9

CHARLES NOBLE GREGORY, *President*
WILLIAM R. VANCE, *Secretary-Treasurer*

1909-10

JOHN C. TOWNES, *President*
WILLIAM R. VANCE, *Secretary-Treasurer*

1910-11

WILLIAM R. VANCE, *President*
GEORGE P. COSTIGAN, JR., *Secretary-Treasurer*

1911-12

ROSCOE POUND, *President*
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1912-13

HENRY M. BATES, *President*
WALTER W. COOK, *Secretary-Treasurer*

1913-14

JOSEPH H. BEALE, *President*
Cambridge, Mass.
WALTER W. COOK, *Secretary-Treasurer*
Chicago, Ill.

Executive Committee

THE PRESIDENT, *ex-officio*
THE SECRETARY-TREASURER, *ex-officio*
ROSCOE POUND, Cambridge, Mass.
D. O. MCGOVNEY, Columbia, Mo.
HENRY M. BATES, Ann Arbor, Mich.

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